



Meeting Minutes Duval County Public Schools

April 4, 2023, Regular Board Meeting

The Jadeite Quartet from Douglas Anderson School of the Arts performed in advance of the start of the Board meeting.

Dr. Kelly Coker, Chairman
Ms. Cindy Pearson, Vice-Chairman
Ms. April A. Carney
Ms. Lori Hershey
Mr. Warren A. Jones
Ms. Charlotte D. Joyce
Mr. Darryl Willie
Dr. Diana Greene, Superintendent

ATTENDANCE AT THIS MEETING OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: All Board Members were present. Dr. Diana Greene, Superintendent, and Mr. Ray Poole, Office of General Counsel, were also present.

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 P.M.

Invocation or Thought of the Day

Chairman Dr. Coker asked everyone standing to please keep in thought those in the Covenant School who were impacted by a recent school shooting.

Pledge of Allegiance

Recognitions/Presentations of Awards

Board Members

ENGLEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTATION

Marleny Chirino, Principal of Englewood High School, thanked the Board for the opportunity to highlight the school. She continued sharing with everyone what the school offers, including that it is the only dual-language high school in Duval County Public Schools (DCPS). Through a video, she shared more information about the 6 areas that the school has been working on.

Vice-Chairman Pearson shared with everyone each time she visits Englewood High she sees a different facet of the school. She continued sharing information on the uniqueness of Englewood High School, and how impressive the school is with all of its diversity and the uniqueness of all of the programs that are offered at the school.

Chairman Dr. Coker recognized former officials that were in attendance at the meeting.

Communications

Chairman Dr. Coker recognized former elected officials, Nathaniel Glover, Former Sherriff of Jacksonville and Former City Council Member, Susanne Jenkins for their attendance at the board meeting.

PARTNER RECOGNITION: JOHNSON & JOHNSON VISION

The district's Career and Technical Education (CTE) partner, Johnson and Johnson Vision, was honored and through this partnership, students are able to receive college credit for their courses and also have the opportunity to take part in internships, mentoring, and career training.

- Johnson & Johnson Vision established the Early College Academy of Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering at Englewood High School in 2014 with Florida State College of Jacksonville.
- The Johnson & Johnson Vision Academy is a dual enrollment program that provides college-level courses at both the Englewood High School and FSCJ campuses.
- Team Duval students attend advanced manufacturing and engineering courses at FSCJ free of charge, including transportation.
- Since the inception of this program, more than 80 students from Team Duval have earned an Associate of Science (AS) or an Associate of Arts (AA) degree from FSCJ.

Sr. Project Portfolio Manager, Abe Alangadan, Bridge to Employment Professionals, Astina Sampadian, Ashlyn McCarthy, Drake Smalley, Youth Leadership Development Program Professionals, Travis McKee, and Vincent Barre, from Johnson & Johnson Vision, along with Englewood High School Principal, Marleny Chirino, CTE Director, Jill Fierle, and Business Partnerships Supervisor, Patrick McCabe joined in for the celebration.

2023 SCHOOL OF CHARACTER: RIVER CITY SCIENCE ACADEMY INNOVATION

River City Science Academy Innovation, was chosen as a 2023 State School of Character by [Character.org](https://character.org). River City Science Academy Innovation is just one of two schools in Florida chosen for the 2023 class, and one of 73 state-level Schools of Character selected throughout the nation. In the organization's own words, "Character.org certifies schools and districts each year at the state level that have developed and implemented an intentional, proactive, and comprehensive approach that embeds character into all aspects of the school life."

- Character.org is an organization that promotes character education in schools across the country.
- Selection of schools is based on Character.org's "11 Principles Framework for Schools."
- This includes schools creating a caring community, as well as fostering students' self-motivation.
- Schools and Districts that have been selected for this award have been put in the running for Character.org's highest distinction - National School of Character, which will be awarded in May.

River City Science Academy's Executive Director and Co-Founder Dr. T., Co-Founder Sel B., River City Science Academy Innovation Principal Erdogan, Dean Mrs. Milton, and Intracoastal Principal Mrs. Jackson joined in the celebration.

OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP IN HOSTING THE STEM AND HEALTH EXPO: RIVER CITY SCIENCE

ACADEMY

River City Science Academy was recognized for their outstanding leadership in hosting the 10th annual STEM & Health Expo. Without question, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) and health are growing pillars in our society. This free event gave students a chance to showcase their skills in science, work in a fun and unique venue, as well as provide learning opportunities for the entire family.

- The expo included science shows, STEM educators & scientists, hands-on activities, robots, community health supporters, health professionals, community workers, public servants, and much more.
- This year's partners included VyStar, JTA, and JEA.
- You could also find booths for EGaming and Coding that were led by DCPS personnel and Springfield Middle students.

Various leaders and educators from River City Science Academy joined in the celebration.

GOVERNOR DESANTIS AND FIRST LADY DESANTIS BLACK HISTORY MONTH ESSAY WINNER, TAIGE LEATHERS, AND EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARD WINNER CLEON EDWARDS

Taige Leathers, a 5th grade student of Richard Lewis Brown Gifted and Academically Talented Academy, was one of six winners of the Black History Student Essay Competition along with an educator, was recently recognized by Governor Ron DeSantis and First Lady Casey DeSantis during their Black History Month reception at the Governor's Mansion.

- Leathers wrote an essay titled "Dr. Nathaniel Glover Jr: Making His Way Through Black History."
- Her essay highlighted the Jacksonville native's achievements as the first African American sheriff elected in Florida since the end of reconstruction, and as former president of Edward Waters College.
- Winners received a 2-year Florida College Plan scholarship provided by the Florida Prepaid College Foundation, as well as a \$100 gift card for school supplies.
- Leathers also received a Superintendent's Coin of Excellence.

Dr. Glover along with R. L. Brown's Principal Kristi Kincaid joined in the celebration, recognizing and congratulating Taige Leathers for her outstanding accomplishment.

The Governor and First Lady also announced the winners of the Black History Month Excellence in Education Award. Cleon Edwards, teacher of Joseph Stilwell Military Academy of Leadership is just one of four winners selected from nominations sent in by principals, teachers, parents or guardians, and students.

- Described as a role model for her students, Ms. Edwards teaches 8th grade and also leads the military leadership program at her school.
- To celebrate Black History Month, she encouraged her students to learn about influential or lesser-known African Americans throughout history and to create a poster about them.
- Excellence in Education award winners receive a \$2,500 prize provided by Volunteer Florida.
- Ms. Edwards also received a Superintendent's Coin of Excellence.

Stilwell Principal Tamara Roper joined Ms. Edwards as she was congratulated and celebrated for her outstanding educational excellence.

SUNSHINE STATE SCHOLARS: WOLFSON SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED STUDIES AND

LEADERSHIP

Andrew Diaz and Sophia Milian, both students at Samuel Wolfson School for Advanced Studies and Leadership, were recognized as two Duval juniors that were selected as Sunshine State Scholars.

- The process of selecting these scholars began with each school district in the state of Florida nominating their top 11th grade students in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM).
- Diaz and Milian were selected to represent Florida.
- Along with their parents, they've been invited to participate in a special program in Orlando next week.
- The program is designed to bring together scholars from around the state, connecting them with employers specializing in STEM, and creating a networking opportunity between the scholars and schools from Florida's College and State University System.
- Students will also have a chance to meet with the senior chancellor, as well as representatives from various Florida colleges and universities, in order to discuss higher education opportunities available to them in this state.
- For this honor, Diaz and Milian both received a Superintendent Coin of Excellence.

Wolfson School For Advanced Studies and Leadership Principal Chris Begley joined in the celebration, congratulating the students on their outstanding achievement.

Approval of Agenda

APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 4, 2023, AGENDA

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board approve the April 4, 2023, agenda as submitted on March 28, 2023 with the following changes:

ADMINISTRATION AND BUSINESS SERVICES - BUDGET AND FINANCIAL

- **ADDITIONAL SERVICES - INDEPENDENT AUDITING SERVICES - ATTACHMENT ADDED**

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

- **AGREEMENT WITH CENTEGIX, LLC - ITEM PULLED FOR CONSENT WITH COMMENTS - PEARSON**
- **IT HARDWARE RFP (EMTEC INC.) - ITEM PULLED FOR DISCUSSION - COKER**

OPERATIONS - FACILITIES PROJECT DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE

- **APPROVE STORMWATER CREDITS PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE - PULLED FOR DISCUSSION - HERSHEY**

BOARD MEMBER TRAVEL:

- **JUNE 7-9, 2023 - TAMPA, FL - FLORIDA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION (FSBA) /FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF DISTRICT SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS (FADSS) - ANNUAL SUMMER CONFERENCE - PEARSON - ITEM ADDED**

Vote Results:

Motion: Lori Hershey

Second: Darryl Willie

PASSED 7-0

Aye:

Lori Hershey
Warren A. Jones
Charlotte D. Joyce
Darryl Willie
Kelly Coker
Cynthia Pearson
April A. Carney

Nay:

None

Chairperson's Report

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairman Dr. Coker shared a PowerPoint Presentation with everyone on the following (see attached):

- Student Safety and Well-Being
- Focus of the Board - Graduation Rate:
 - Current Trends
 - Support Systems for Students in Attendance
 - Support Systems for Students who are Disengaged
 - The Tassel is Worth the Hassel
- Partnership with Vystar
 - Financial Literacy and Workplace Readiness
 - Program Outcomes
- Recent Board Activities
 - Board in Review
 - Vice-Chairman Cindy Pearson, legislative liaison, shared a quick update on items that everyone should be aware of concerning senate bills such as HB733 and SB1112.
 - YMCA First Coast Games & Junior Achievement Challenge
 - DCPS School Related Employee of the Year Dinner
- Upcoming Dates & Items of Interest

Superintendent's Reports

Dr. Greene assured the community that everything is being done to keep students and staff safe. She shared a PowerPoint Presentation on the following (see attached):

- Safety and Security
 - Ensuring all staff and students are trained.
 - Training is appropriate for each student population.
 - All staff has the ability to call for a lock down and the call goes directly to law enforcement.
 - Gates that are outdated have been changed and all gates and doors are kept locked.
- Upcoming testing information.
- Testing Tips.
- Junior Achievement Stock Market Challenge.

- School Choice Magnet Lottery information.

Department Reports

Sales Surtax Oversight Committee Report

Hank Rogers, Chairman of the Sales Surtax Oversight Committee, shared the purpose of the committee with everyone. He thanked the board for the opportunity to serve and shared updates concerning the committee. Some of the updates included the following:

- The committee is on task with achieving the goals set.
- Changes in committee members which included members that have resigned and new members.
- All members of the community were encouraged to attend the meetings and share their public comments.

Chairman Dr. Coker thanked Mr. Rogers for his leadership and his service to the children and community.

Public Comment

Before public comment, Chairman Dr. Coker shared a point of order with the public in light of recent events involving a former DCPS employee. She then turned it over to Ray Poole, Office of General Counsel Attorney to inform the public where the district is concerning the recent event.

Mr. Poole shared with the public that there is an ongoing investigation into the events that transpired at Douglas Anderson and he asked the public to be circumspect in what they say to avoid impeding the investigation. Mr. Poole provided the public with an update of what has taken place thus far with the investigation and he encouraged the public that if anyone present had any information to share concerning the events that took place, he welcomed them to speak with Chief Burton, Executive Director of the Duval County School Police, or the investigators.

Chairman Dr. Coker reiterated to the public to please refrain from references to specific individuals due to the ongoing investigation.

The following spoke:

- Melissa Bernhardt
- Kathleen Perera
- Tiffany Wells
- Carlos Parara
- Ginger Peacock-Preston
- Robert Stafford
- Ben Ebiner Winkler
- Jack Leon
- Shyla Jenkins
- Austin Miniard
- Kathleen Murray
- Amanda Rigel
- Rhianna Pohlhammer
- Mandy Rubin
- Gamble Scott

- Jennifer Cowart, MD
- Justin Kugler
- Leila' Owens
- Sharmin Smith
- Crystal Colston
- Wells Todd
- Brittany Beinmourtrusting
- Carola Zalles (did not speak)
- Taylor Hovanciv
- Corinne Carabas
- Payton Galvin
- Andy Bruck
- Xin Liu (did not speak)
- Lori Crunden
- James Crunden
- Melissa Rehfus
- Becky Nathanson
- Carl Polk
- Deana Barone
- Michele Matisoo

The following waived their speaking time:

- Ed Williams
- Yifat Ebner Winkler
- Trinity Baker
- Dan Merkan
- Jeannina Perez
- Caroline Augustus
- Cheryl Virta
- Krista O'Hara
- Dominic Broadus
- Heather Duren
- Jimmy Pelaso
- Brandi Mathews
- Katie Hammill
- Jean Francis
- Greg Beimourtrusting
- Francie Hallahan
- Ashley Coxe
- Victoria Race
- Kelly Falk
- Tina Peckham
- Candy Sullivan
- Jeanine Parisi-Ng
- Angie Sparks
- Shannon Shanklin
- Samantha Hamel
- Joseph Robinson

- Jaimie Shires
- Twila Church
- Hannah Wells
- Michele Matisoo
- Mike Adamson
- Wendy Collins
- DeAnna Adamson
- Tabitha Byers
- Annie Kirby
- Christina Diley
- Mary Reilly
- Debbie Elliott
- Cara L. Eisenmann

The Board recessed the meeting at 8:41 p.m.

The Board resumed the meeting at 8:56 p.m.

Comments from Parent Organizations

No comments.

Comments from District Student Government Association

No comments.

Comments from Employee Organizations

Frank Delong, spoke instead of David Bryant, President, IBEW. Mr. Delong passed out documents to all of the Board Members with pictures to support his comments about work that had been contracted out. Mr. Delong shared with the Board that some work had been done incorrectly and he feels some work was contracted out but should have been given to (DCPS) maintenance. He asked the Board Members to look at the "Arc Flash Accident" which would inform them of the dangers associated with the job of a maintenance person, as he said maintenance personnel work more hours per year than teachers do.

Approval of Minutes

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board approve the following Board minutes:

- **March 7, 2023, Regular Board Meeting**
- **March 21, 2023, Board Workshop**
- **March 21, 2023, Agenda Committee Meeting**
- **March 21, 2023, Special Board Meeting**
- **March 22, 2023, Policy Handbook Review Committee Meeting**
- **March 22, 2023, Special Board Meeting - Student Expulsion**

Vote Results:

Motion: Lori Hershey

Second: Warren A. Jones

PASSED 7-0

Aye:

Lori Hershey
Warren A. Jones
Charlotte D. Joyce
Darryl Willie
Kelly Coker
Cynthia Pearson
April A. Carney

Nay:

None

Approval of Consent Agenda

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board approve the Consent Agenda.

Vote Results:

Motion: Charlotte D. Joyce

Second: April A. Carney

Board Member Joyce moved Item #2 on the April 4 meeting consent agenda to a discussion item. Although Board Member Carney seconded Board Member Joyce's action, it was not a motion and a second was not needed. By moving item #2 off the consent agenda to discussion, that amounted to an amendment of the agenda. The agenda, as amended, was then voted on electronically and unanimously approved by the Board. Thereafter, item #2 was considered as a discussion item. Board Member Hershey moved to approve Item #2, and Board Member Jones seconded the motion. Following discussion, a hand vote was taken on Item #2. It was approved by a 6-1 vote. The agenda was amended and approved, but Item #2 was not amended.

PASSED 7-0

Aye:

Lori Hershey
Warren A. Jones
Charlotte D. Joyce
Darryl Willie
Kelly Coker
Cynthia Pearson
April A. Carney

Nay:

None

Consent Agenda

Board Members

Academic Services

1. CONTRACT RENEWAL FOR MEASUREMENT, INC. (GEAR UP, Grant A)

School Choice and Pupil Assignments

2. SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE CHARTER CONTRACT FOR SAN JOSE EARLY COLLEGE AT CECIL

Human Resource Services - Staffing

3. HUMAN RESOURCE SERVICES EMPLOYEE TRANSACTIONS
4. APPROVAL OF CONTRACT AMENDMENT WITH TPG CULTURAL EXCHANGE, LLC
5. PROPERTY INSURANCE

Human Resource Services - Compensation

Human Resource Services - Labor Relations

6. SETTLEMENT WITH JACKSONVILLE SUPERVISORS ASSOCIATION

Human Resource Services - Professional Standards

7. EMPLOYEE SUSPENSION WITHOUT PAY – SIMUEL DENSON III

Administration and Business Services - Budget and Financial

8. MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – JANUARY 2023
9. ADOPTION OF BUDGET RESOLUTIONS – FEBRUARY 2023
10. ADDITIONAL SERVICES - INDEPENDENT AUDITING SERVICES

Information Technology

11. AGREEMENT WITH CENTEGIX, LLC

Vice-Chairman Pearson shared information from a Board Workshop that she thought would be very interesting. Those items included the following:

- The Centegix crisis badge system is replacing the current safety alert system which is a cellular system.
- The badge system would be portable for the schools that are being renovated and replaced.
- The panic button communicates with both Duval County School Police (DCSP) and the Jacksonville Sherriff's Office (JSO).

12. PROOFPOINT

13. PURCHASE, INSTALLATION, CONFIGURATION, AND MAINTENANCE OF UNINTERRUPTIBLE POWER SUPPLY (UPS) BATTERY BACKUP

14. CYBERSECURITY LICENSES

15. AUDIO VISUAL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES DISCOUNT BID

Operations - Real Estate, Planning and Programming

16. APPROVE SITE ACCESS AGREEMENT WITH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES AT ALDEN ROAD EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT CENTER NO. 252

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

17. PREQUALIFICATIONS OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS FOR EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

18. CHANGE ORDER REPORT

19. PERIODIC REPORT OF SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETIONS AND FINAL INSPECTIONS OF MAJOR MAINTENANCE AND MINOR CAPITAL PROJECTS UNDER \$1,000,000.

20. PERIODIC REPORT OF PHASE III DRAWING COMPLETIONS FOR MAJOR MAINTENANCE AND MINOR CAPITAL PROJECTS UNDER \$1,000,000.

21. SELECTION AND AWARD OF DESIGN SERVICES PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT - NEW K-5 PROTOTYPE ENGLEWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - RFQ No. 09-21/TW - PROJECT NO. C-91750

22. SELECTION AND AWARD OF DESIGN SERVICES PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT - NEW K-5 PROTOTYPE AT PICKETT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - RFQ NO. 09-21/TW - PROJECT NO. C-91730

23. SELECTION AND AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT RISK AGREEMENT FOR NEW K-5 PROTOTYPE ENGLEWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - RFQ NO. 017-23/LM - PROJECT NO. C-91750

24. SELECTION AND AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT RISK AGREEMENT FOR NEW K-5 PROTOTYPE PICKETT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - RFQ NO. 017-23/LM - PROJECT NO. C-91730

25. AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT RISK AGREEMENT FOR RENOVATIONS AT R. L. BROWN GIFTED AND TALENTED - RFQ NO. 15-23/LM - PROJECT NO. P-89150

26. AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT RISK AGREEMENT FOR NEW K-5 PROTOTYPE LOUIS S. SHEFFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - RFQ NO. 16-23/LM - PROJECT NO. C-91740

27. SELECTION AND AWARD OF DESIGN SERVICES PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT - NEW K-5 PROTOTYPE SPRING PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - RFQ NO. 06-22/TW - PROJECT NO. P-91720

28. AWARD OF DESIGN SERVICES PROFESSIONAL CONSULTANT - NEW K-5 PROTOTYPE LOUIS S. SHEFFIELD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - RFQ NO. 06-22/TW - PROJECT NO. P-91740

29. SELECTION AND AWARD OF CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AT RISK AGREEMENT FOR NEW K-5 PROTOTYPE SPRING PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - RFQ NO. 16-23/LM - PROJECT NO. C-91720

30. RENEWAL OF THE CUSTODIAL SERVICES MANAGEMENT CONTRACT

Operations - Purchasing and Logistics

31. SURPLUS PROPERTY RETIREMENT REPORT

32. FEBRUARY 2023 PURCHASE REPORT

Chief of Staff

General

Emergency Agenda Items

Discussion

Board Members

Academic Services

33. APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH READ USA, INC.

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board approve an agreement with READ USA Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$242,840.00.

That the Duval County School Board authorize the Chairman or Vice-Chairman and Superintendent to execute the agreement contingent upon form approval by the Office of General Counsel.

Vote Results:

Motion: Lori Hershey

Second: Warren Jones

Board Member Joyce shared her concerns about the language being used in the agreement and whether it meets the statute. Discussion took place on the following:

- Read USA provides a list and the list is made available to the students.
- The list may be incomplete or inconclusive.
- Every single title of the books need to be made available to the parents.
- Recollection of discussion during Board Workshop.
- Materials are purchased by the district.

Board Member Hershey inquired if the books provided during the book fair would be stem-themed books or would there be books outside of that. Dr. Greene joined the discussion, sharing that the vast majority of the books are stem based. Discussion continued on the following:

- A list will be provided for books made available but there could be substitute titles.
- Parents have the option to attend the book fair after school.

Vice-Chairman joined the discussion, requesting clarity as she did not think the book fair was open in the afternoon. She asked for clarity so everyone would understand. Paula Renfro joined the discussion to provide clarity to everyone on the following:

- Read USA bookfairs occur during the day and the students have the opportunity to receive a flyer and information is sent home to give parents a chance to access previews of the books by use of the QR code.
- Students do not need money for the Read USA bookfairs because the district covers the cost of those books.
- Scholastic Book Fairs occur after school and parents have the opportunity to participate.

Board Member Jones joined in the discussion on the following:

- Partnership between Read USA and the district.
- The district pays \$5.00 and Read USA pays \$5.00 for each student's books.
- The book list is not all inclusive as Read USA has the authority to substitute titles.
- Suggestions to make parents aware that the Read USA has the authority to substitute titles.

Board Member Carney joined the discussion, sharing the following:

- The program is great, but she thinks as a Board that information concerning titles should be communicated to parents.
- Ensuring that the statute is understood.

Chairman Dr. Coker joined the discussion, inquiring of Mrs. Renfro about the flyers that are sent home and if parents have the ability to opt their children out of going to the book fair without them. Discussion continued on the following:

- Parents have the ability to go the school and attend the book fair with their child.
- The number of days each school hosts a book fair is based upon the school size.

Board Member Joyce shared kids getting books in their hands is a wonderful thing, but she requests that the titles be listed to ensure the law is upheld. Discussion included the following:

- Sometimes it is unknown what the substitute titles will be.
- Principals are encouraged to go through the books received.
- Supply and demand causes substitute titles.
- The Read USA agreement states they will supply a book list.

PASSED 6-1

Aye:

Lori Hershey
Warren A. Jones
Darryl Willie
Kelly Coker
Cynthia Pearson
April A. Carney

Nay:

Charlotte D. Joyce

Information Technology

34. IT HARDWARE RFP (EMTEC INC.)

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board approve the amendment and renewal of RFP NO. 03-19/LM IT Hardware with Emtec Inc. for the period of April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$45,000,000. There are two (2) additional one (1) year renewals remaining.

That the Duval County School Board authorize the Board Chairman or Vice Chairman, and the Superintendent, to execute the agreement contingent upon form approval by the Office of General Counsel.

Vote Results:

Motion: Lori Hershey

Second: Darryl Willie

Chairman Dr. Coker pulled this item for discussion. Jim Culbert, Chief Officer, Technology Services, and Board Member April Carney joined in the discussion on the following:

- This agenda item was not discussed during the Agenda Review.
- Discussion was needed as to the amount of money the item covered.
- The implementation of an early renewal is needed to complete projects for the new school year.
- Several departments are serviced by this contract, resulting in not having enough funds for

completion of projects.

- Warnings to alert that funds were running out to ensure this could be brought before the Board in a timely manner.
- Anticipation of large purchases could come from schools in the upcoming year due to federal funding.
- The technology spending increase stemmed from Covid and the increase in ratios in elementary schools.
- The technology department is not expecting an increase in capital funds spending.
- Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) funds were primarily used to pay for long-term technology interactive monitors in elementary classrooms.
- Capital funds will be used to maintain the things the students are supposed to have in ratio to the class.
- Putting systems in place to ensure Mr. Culbert knows when the funds are running out.

Board Member Willie expressed thanks for the discussion that was held on this item and discussion continued on the following:

- The contract total from past years and the possibility of not needing the entire \$45,000,000.00.
- The need to cover other entities is the reason for the contract total being so high.
- Entities that are considered under other entities.
- The district gets a discount and there is only a very small portion of the \$45,000,000 that is considered district funds.

Board Member Joyce joined the discussion on the following:

- Capital funds used for devices strictly for DCPS.
- The use of ESSER funds.
- Possibility of amending the contract to allow more time for this item to be discussed during the next workshop.
- The need for the item to be approved to cover the cost of items needed to ensure schools are ready for opening on the first day of school for the 2023-2024 school year.
- A contract cannot be amended without a counteroffer and would have to go back through negotiations.
- The contract can be signed and conversations can still be held as it is not mandatory that the \$45,000,000.00 be spent. This will avoid delays in receiving Information Technology (IT) devices needed.
- Next year's expectation for IT purchases.

Dr. Greene joined the discussion, sharing the following:

- Large amounts have been tied to Covid and the FCC grant, which allowed the district to purchase laptops for families to keep at home.
- ESSER funds were received, with a requirement to purchase IT devices.
- The extensiveness is due to schools being built.
- Mr. Culbert and his team performs analysis on trends and methods.
- This contract is for every school to use.
- The expectation of the next IT contract may be February 2024.

PASSED 7-0

Aye:

Lori Hershey
Warren A. Jones
Charlotte D. Joyce
Darryl Willie

Kelly Coker
Cynthia Pearson
April A. Carney

Nay:
None

Operations - Facilities Project Design, Construction and Maintenance

35. APPROVE STORMWATER CREDITS PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board approve the Stormwater Credits Purchase Agreement between the City of Jacksonville and Duval County School Board in an amount not to exceed \$95,059.24

That the Duval County School Board authorize the Office of General Counsel to make non-substantive, technical, or non-material changes to the Stormwater Credits Purchase Agreement if needed.

That the Duval County School Board authorize the Chairman, or Vice Chairman, and Superintendent to execute the Stormwater Credits Purchase Agreement when form approved by the Office of General Counsel.

Vote Results:

Motion: Warren A. Jones

Second: Lori Hershey

Board Member Hershey shared the following:

- This item is a shared partnership and she has concerns about the city not having an investment in it.
- She thanked Tammie Talley, Director of District Athletics and Paul Soares, Assistant Superintendent, Chief Operations for their efforts and working with City Council to get further commitment from the city.
- Community partnership is important.
- Initially, the City of Jacksonville (COJ) could not donate but later came back willing to cover the cost of the agreement or cover the cost of the expenses due to the city's benefit of having community access to the field.
- Board Member Willie thanked Mr. Soares for the work completed on this project.
- The need for a separate agreement with the city taking into consideration the change in leadership.
- The joint use agreement will be memorialized in a written agreement.

PASSED 7-0

Aye:

Lori Hershey
Warren A. Jones

Charlotte D. Joyce
Darryl Willie
Kelly Coker
Cynthia Pearson
April A. Carney

Nay:
None

Chief of Staff

General

Emergency Agenda Items

Board Member Travel

BOARD MEMBER TRAVEL

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board confirm the travel listed is for official Board business and that it complies with the rules of the State Board of Education:

- June 7-9, 2023 - Tampa, FL. - Florida School Boards Association (FSBA) / Florida Association of District School Superintendents (FADSS) - Annual Summer Conference - Pearson

Vote Results:

Motion: Warren A. Jones

Second: Darryl Willie

No public comment.

PASSED 7-0

Aye:

Lori Hershey
Warren A. Jones
Charlotte D. Joyce
Darryl Willie
Kelly Coker
Cynthia Pearson
April A. Carney

Nay:
None

Superintendent's Travel

None

For The Record

Board Member Hershey:

- Thanked everyone who spoke out to bravely share their story about their experiences at Douglas Anderson (D.A.) and she assured them that she heard them loud and clear.
- She requested of Dr. Greene for the district to perform an internal investigation to explore how the incident happened, how it was allowed to continue and who is responsible.
- She requested to be given the framework for the investigation and timeline by the next Board Workshop.
- She requested that the investigation be sufficiently broad to address how this happened and not a narrow focus on one employee.
- She highly applauded the district for actions that had already been taken and following Florida Statute 1012.796 paragraph (1) (d) which specifies the actions of the district.
- She feels the extra step requested for the internal investigation is what is needed to explain how the D. A. issue got to this point.
- A request was made for a review of Policy 6.84 and 6.80 at the next policy meeting.
- A request for clarity was made to find out how the district is exercising management rights in our collective bargaining as it applies to professional standards.
- She shared a statement "When warning signs are ignored, disastrous things can happen."
- Testimony has been heard tonight that is grave against the district and she is asking that action be taken as a district to find out how we ended up where we are today.

Board Member Willie:

- Shared appreciation for the words from Board Member Hershey.
- He shared with the public that it took a lot of courage to stand up and say the words that were said, and he shared appreciation for them sharing their information.
- He shared with the public that something would be done about the events that took place at D.A.
- DCPS wants to be a district that is safe and they want to do right by their students and staff.
- Shared concerns about the incident that took place in Tennessee.
- Thanked Dr. Greene and acknowledged that the Board always discuss safety.
- Policies have consequences and they allow things to happen.
- Keep safety at the top of your mind.
- As a Board, use your voice.
- Things that happen outside of our schools affect our schools every day.
- Celebrated the Special Olympics Event as this was a special time for athletes and he thanked the Special Olympics and the partnerships.
- Phenomenal 5000 Role Models event. Appreciation was shared.
- Announced an upcoming town hall meeting and informed the public that more details would be coming on the website.
- Shared various topics of discussion for the upcoming town hall meeting.
- Thanked everyone.

Board Member Joyce:

- Thanked the Board for their patience and allowing her to participate in meetings via telephone.
- Shared she never felt out of the loop and she thanked Chairman Dr. Coker for initiating the policy changes. Sometimes board members can not physically be at the meetings.
- She thanked everyone for their thoughts, prayers and flowers while she was recovering.

- She thanked Dr. Greene for reaching out to her.
- Thanked Board Member Hershey for what she brought to the Board concerning D. A. and she shared she completely supports it.
- She asked the Board to reconsider the policy on speaker protocol during the next policy meeting.
- Shared that her and Dr. Greene attended the Ortega Elementary 100 year celebration and that she loves to see the students at the school.
- Congratulated Ms. Edwards at Stilwell for receiving outstanding educator in Black History and shared that she is an amazing educator who has done an amazing job.
- Reminded everyone of the Chaffee Trails Groundbreaking.

Board Member Carney:

- Shared she is a mom with 2 teenage daughters and she grew up with a friend that had issues in 4th grade. She acknowledged that she saw something but did not say something a long time ago.
- The D.A. issue is personal, heartbreaking and emotional for her, so they need to make sure it does not happen again.
- Promises to be vigilant along with the Board and they will always do what is right to protect our students.
- Spoke of the opportunity to sit in and ride in a brand new helicopter and how that experience was.
- Commended Captain Brian Binder and what he is doing to partner with DCPS the Duval County Public Schools. She shared that they are doing amazing things.
- Thanked Dr. Greene for forwarding her the email concerning the Fletcher senior, Grant Tucker, who has been accepted into 6 out of 8 Ivey League schools in our country.
- Congratulated Grant Tucker and wished him nothing but the best and said he was going to have a very bright future.

Board Member Jones:

- Shared that he feels they all have been touched by the things that transpired at D.A. and his heart aches as he said somehow the district failed its students and we have to make sure it does not ever happen again.
- People have to speak up to avoid it being too late due to the statute of limitations.
- We care about Jacksonville and our students.
- A need to address the assault weapons.
- Congratulated Lawanda Polydore, Principal of Hidden Oaks Elementary, and Lori Turner, Principal of Thomas Jefferson Elementary for their schools, was selected as School of the Month by Community First Credit Union. He shared that both principals do an outstanding job.

Vice-Chairman Pearson:

- Thanked Board Member Hershey for her comments on the investigation.
- Shared information on HB733 and SB1112 which deals with middle and high School start times and how these changes could impact students and families.
- Changing middle and high school start times to allow teenagers to sleep longer because of health benefits is well intentioned. However, this should be left to local boards to decide with community input.
- Orange County Public Schools surveyed 31,972 respondents. 87% responded representing the middle and high school grade band.
- The highest level was for schools to maintain current school start times.
- The strongest opposition was moving start times by 40 minutes and switching elementary and high school times.
- Among students, all grade bands strongly supported maintaining current start times. Strongly opposing adjusting by 40 minutes and adjusting by 40 and/or switching elementary and high schools.

- DCPS staff have developed four models with a summary of concerns.
- An earlier start time for elementary schools could impact alertness and attendance of students:
 - It could affect family schedules for getting multiple students to school.
 - It could impact family plans to have older siblings watch younger siblings after school.
 - It could cause more families to need extended day care, causing a financial impact on families and a strain on extended day staffing.
- Earlier start times for secondary schools:
 - No guarantee that earlier start times will result in improved academic performance and/or attendance.
 - Schools could move athletic practices and extracurricular activities before school, negating the "sleep in" benefit.
 - Later dismissal could impact family schedules, work or volunteer opportunities, start times for middle school sports (most schools do not have lights on the fields), which would impact the ability to have middle school sports.
- For DCPS, the biggest impact would be on logistics and transportation:
 - The House Bill provides 3 years to implement and potential funding.
 - It is debatable that 3 years will overcome bus and bus driver shortages.
 - Difficulty securing buses for athletic events.
 - Significantly impact the level of service we currently provide for magnet transportation.
- For the community, it would impact morning and afternoon commutes:
 - Impact on work schedules.
 - Busing is a logistical concern.
 - The start time applies to all students in public traditional, magnet and charter schools.
 - Shifting of more cars, which will cause longer car lines.
- Call to Action for Everyone:
 - Read HB733 and SB 1112 as they are pretty much identical.
 - Decide if you think it is a good idea, then use your voice.
 - Please contact Senator Burgess from Zephyrhills about Senate Bill 1112.
- Upcoming Committees
 - Senate Appropriations on Education.
 - Senate Fiscal Policy.
- Duval Senators
 - Senator Tracie Davis.
 - Senator Clay Yarborough.
- MyFloridaHouse.gov was shared with the public and the public was encouraged to do research on the bill and make contact with those who could make a decision on it.

Chairman Dr. Coker:

- Thanked Board Member Hershey for her comments.
- Thanked the speakers who came and appreciated their bravery and helping the district to understand and for sharing their stories.
- She thanked her colleagues on the diocese and, though they have different views, there is good governance among the Duval County School Board and she was grateful they were able to do the job that they were elected to do.
- Shared appreciation for Attorney Ray Poole, Office of General Counsel, and the countless hours spent assisting with patience.
- Shared appreciation for all district staff and, despite everything going on, she acknowledged that district staff still show up every day with the best interest in heart.

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

That the Duval County School Board move to adjourn the meeting.

Vote Results:

Motion: Cindy Pearson

Second: Lori Hershey

PASSED 7-0

Aye:

Lori Hershey

Warren A. Jones

Charlotte D. Joyce

Darryl Willie

Kelly Coker

Cynthia Pearson

April A. Carney

Nay:

None

MA

Superintendent

Chairman